



# KEY NOTES

e-newsletter of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission

Aug. 18, 2011



Chicago's skyline comes into view on Aug. 10 as the [Pride of Baltimore II](#) approaches the city. The ship is expected to arrive at Port Washington, Wis., on Aug. 18. [Learn more](#) about the 2011 *Pride Sail*. Photo by Captain Jan Miles.

## Commission grants promote upcoming bicentennial

The Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission has established a grant program for capital and non-capital projects related to the bicentennial observance. Nonprofit organizations and local, state and federal government agencies may apply for matching grants in an amount of up to \$250,000.

The initial application period for Star-Spangled 200 Grants [opens Sept. 1](#) and closes Nov. 1. Awards will be announced Feb. 2012. Subsequent grant cycles will be held with application deadlines in May 2012; Nov. 2012; May 2013; Nov. 2013; and May 2014. Capital projects include site or property acquisition, development, restoration, pre-development, and archeology, in addition to design, fabrication and installation of permanent exhibits. Non-capital projects include planning, design, interpretation, programming and events.

Funding for this grant program will come from the War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission as it receives surcharges from the U.S. Mint's sale of bicentennial commemorative coins, as well as private contributions made to Star-Spangled 200, Inc. For more information, call or e-mail [Bill Pencek](#), executive director of the commission, 410-767-6289.

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### Upcoming Events

[Evening Military Tattoo Ceremony](#)  
Aug. 20

[8th Annual War of 1812 Re-enactment](#)  
Aug. 21

[Defenders' Day Celebration at North](#)

## Star-Spangled 200 fundraiser presents PBS film



See a sneak preview of [The War of 1812](#) – a PBS documentary that airs nationwide Oct. 10 – at the Landmark Theatres Harbor East Cinema in Baltimore, Monday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m. The film includes re-enactments, animation and commentary from American, British, Canadian and Native American historians. Filmmaker Larry Hott, Florentine Films, will be present for a Q&A session. Advance tickets are [available online](#) for \$15; tickets at the door, \$20. This event has been made possible by a generous contribution from [AT&T](#).



### Search for *Scorpion* continues in Patuxent

Archaeologists from the Maryland Historical Trust, U.S. Navy and Maryland State Highway Administration – in partnership with the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission – have initiated a second season of searching for a War of 1812 shipwreck in the Patuxent River near Upper Marlboro in Prince George's County. They

are now closer to identifying what could be Commodore Joshua Barney's flagship, *Scorpion* (left, a piece from the ship's bow).

In August 1814, Barney's flotilla retreated to the shallow waters of the Patuxent River, where the British Navy set up a blockade trapping them. Rather than allow the British to capture and use the vessels against American troops, Barney issued the order to scuttle the boats in the river.

"The story of Joshua Barney and his flotilla men is among the most inspirational, but little-known stories of the War of 1812 in the Chesapeake," said Bill Pencek, executive director of the bicentennial commission. "Heroic Marylanders – native, foreign born, and African-American – fought side by side and were the last to stand in the defense of the nation's capital at Bladensburg."

The [search for the \*Scorpion\*](#) is partially funded through the federal Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP), which funds non-traditional, community-based transportation-related projects.

## Redcoats invade Fort McHenry

[Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine](#) presents a **twilight tattoo ceremony** – the oldest tradition in Baltimore – on Saturday, Aug. 20, 6-7:30 p.m. The ceremony features a posting of the colors, military music, precision marching and musket-firing. Similar ceremonies have occurred at the fort since 1799. Canada's [Fort George Fife and Drum Corps](#) joins the [Fort McHenry Guard Fife and Drum Corps](#) for the event. Admission is free and open to the public.

### [Point](#)

Sept. 4

### [Star-Spangled Banner Weekend](#)

Sept. 9- 11

### [1812 Re-enactment and Encampment](#)

Sept. 24

### [1812 Tavern Night](#)

Sept. 24

### [15th National War of 1812](#)

[Symposium: The Civil War of 1812: War and Disquiet and the New Nation](#)

Oct. 1

### [1814 British Invasion of Prince George's County Bus Tour](#)

Oct. 1

### [Traditional Crafts Fair](#)

Oct. 1

## Recent News

[Middletown native named commander of Navy ship](#), *FrederickNewsPost.com*

[Mad Dogs & Britons!](#), *Urbanite*

[Historical Society readies new War of 1812 exhibit](#), *Dundalk Eagle*

Read more [news](#).

## Upcoming Grant Deadlines

### Sept. 1

Maryland Humanities Council  
[Major Grants](#) (letters of inquiry)  
[Opportunity Grants](#)

### Sept. 8

National Archives and Records  
Administration National Historical  
Publications and Records  
Commission  
[State and National Archival](#)

Fort McHenry also hosts its **Star-Spangled Banner Weekend**, Sept. 9-11, in honor of Defenders' Day – the annual tribute to the defense of the city in the Battle of Baltimore. The celebration includes more than 100 War of 1812 re-enactors, parades, musical concerts, "privateer's auction," fireworks and a ship-to-shore bombardment of the fort. Also, the [Friends of Fort McHenry](#) will host *Star-Spangled Spectacular*, a [fundraiser](#) on Saturday, Sept. 10 at 5:00 p.m. Commission Chair Raymond "Chip" Mason will receive the Francis Scott Key Award. For more information on these events, call 410-962-4290.

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## Anne Arundel historical site hosts 1812 events

John R. Leopold, Anne Arundel County executive, has announced that a commemoration of the War of 1812 will occur next year at [Hancock's Resolution](#) in Pasadena. "Our county has many ties to the War of 1812, and Hancock's Resolution was a signal point to warn Baltimore of the approaching British fleet," Leopold said.

Jim Morrison, president of the Friends of Hancock's Resolution, has agreed to serve on a committee appointed by Leopold, which will plan the commemoration.

Historical records indicate that on Aug. 24, 1812, the British spotted a schooner on Bodkin Creek that was possibly the *Lion*, one of the privateer vessels that were creating havoc for British ships. The crew saw the British coming, and removed the sails before abandoning ship and landing at Hancock's Resolution. Normally, the British would have taken the vessel to navigate shallow waters, but without sails, it was of little value. The British decided to burn the *Lion*, though the wreckage was never found.

Hancock's Resolution, located by Bayside Beach, presents its annual War of 1812 re-enactment, Sunday, Aug. 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5 a person, or \$10 for a family.

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## Defenders' Day features re-enactments, new exhibit

The annual salute to the storied defense of Baltimore during the War of 1812 returns Sunday, Sept. 4, to Fort Howard Park in Baltimore County. [Defenders' Day](#) re-enactments of the Battle of North Point occur at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. A full [schedule](#) of activities is online. Nearby, [Todd's Inheritance](#) will be open for the occasion, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"Get an early start on celebrating the War of 1812 bicentennial by coming to Defenders' Day at North Point," said Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz. "It's a great opportunity to witness a live re-enactment, enjoy a beautiful waterfront park and help preserve our proud 1812 heritage."

The event also includes the presentation of a new traveling exhibit – *Defense of a Nation, Maryland in the War of 1812* – that was coordinated by the [Baltimore National Heritage Area](#). Send an [e-mail](#) request for more information about bringing the exhibit to your community.

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### [Partnership Grants](#)

#### Sept. 15

National Endowment for the Humanities

### [Enduring Questions](#)

## Links



[Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission](#)



[Star-Spangled 200, Inc.](#)



[Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#)



[Baltimore National Heritage Area](#)

[Battle of Bladensburg](#)

[Eastern Shore 1812 Consortium](#)

[Historic Prince George's](#)



[Upper Bay War of 1812](#)

## Get the latest 1814 news at Fell's Point



The town crier at Fell's Point in Baltimore is back giving the news of the day regarding the events of a corresponding period in 1814 – from the gathering of British forces in the Chesapeake Bay to the Battle of Bladensburg, the sacking of Washington, the Battle of North Point and the bombardment of Fort McHenry. Jack Trautwein delivers a 10-minute recap of the news in his role as town crier daily until Sept. 18, at 2 p.m. in Market Square at the foot of Broadway. For more information, call or [e-mail](#) the town crier, 410-746-7494.

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## 1812 scholar leads 'British Invasion' tour

[Darnall's Chance House Museum](#) in Upper Marlboro presents its annual 1814 British Invasion of Prince George's County Bus Tour, Oct. 1, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. War of 1812 scholar [Ralph Eshelman](#) leads the trip, which traces the route that British troops used during their march on the nation's capital in August, 1814. Darnall's Chance was built in 1741-1742 by James Wardrop, a Scottish immigrant who became a wealthy merchant in Upper Marlboro. For more information about the bus tour, call 301-952-8010.

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## Lewis Museum hosts annual 1812 symposium

The 15th National War of 1812 Symposium – [The Civil War of 1812: War and Disquiet and the New Nation](#) – will be held Oct. 1, 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. at the [Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture](#) in Baltimore. David T. Terry, executive director of the museum, delivers one of the day's presentations, *African-Americans and the War of 1812*. Alan Taylor, professor of history at the University of California, Davis, and author of *The Civil War of 1812: American Citizens, British Subjects, Irish Rebels, & Indian Allies*, will also be a featured speaker.

Other presentations include: *Three U.S. Navy 44-Gun Frigates; Former Maryland Slaves and the Treaty of Ghent; The U.S. Raid on York, Upper Canada: April 1813*; and *Whites and Black in British Uniform: Royal Marines and Colonial Marines in the Chesapeake in 1814*. A tour of the [Star-Spangled Banner Flag House](#) follows the symposium.

To register, make out checks (\$50/person) to War of 1812 Consortium and send to: Charles P. Ives III, 802 Kingston Road, Baltimore, MD 21212. Payment due by Sept. 22. The event is co-sponsored by the Council on America's Military Past.

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## Bladensburg plans visitor's center, monument

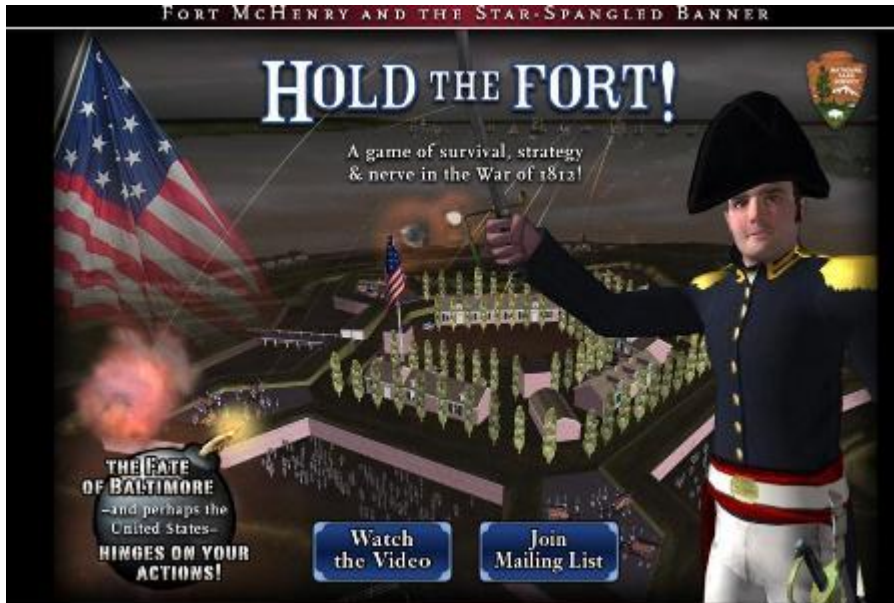
On a rainy day that featured a re-enactment of the Battle of Bladensburg and period military drills on the lawn of [Riversdale Historic House Museum](#) in Prince George's County, the [Battle of Bladensburg Task Force](#) revealed its plans for a visitor's

center, memorial monument, walking tours, exhibits, festivals and other activities that will commemorate the Aug. 24, 1814, conflict.

The Aug. 13 re-enactment was a tribute to the 197th anniversary of the battle. Riversdale Kitchen Guild provided food at the event and [Anacostia Trails Heritage Area](#) – a partner of the task force – offered Star-Spangled Banner cupcakes.

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## Hold the Fort!



A new computer-animated learning game gives users a chance to take Major George Armistead's role as commander of Fort McHenry during the Battle of Baltimore. [Hold the Fort!](#) – developed by Fort McHenry and the Living Classrooms Foundation – will be available by the end of the year.

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## Free workshops focus on heritage-preservation grants

Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) – in cooperation with the Maryland Humanities Council, Preservation Maryland, Department of Housing and Community Development and State Highway Administration – offers a series of afternoon workshops on grant opportunities for heritage-preservation projects.

Workshops address [Museum Assistance](#), [African-American Heritage](#), and [Non-Capital MHT grants](#) and grants offered by the [Maryland Heritage Areas Authority](#), Maryland Humanities Council, State Highway Administration, Department of Housing and Community Development, and Preservation Maryland.

Call or [e-mail](#) Bernadette Pruitt, 410-514-7650, to register or for more information. Admission is free and registration is preferred. Workshops run from 2-5 p.m. on these dates:

- Sept. 14, Westminster, Community Media Center of Carroll County
- Sept. 20, Greenbelt Community Center
- Sept. 28, Easton, Historical Society of Talbot County



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## Featured Site



### Madison House

President James Madison arrived by horseback at the home of Caleb and Henrietta Bentley in Brookeville on Aug. 26, 1814, after the British had rampaged through Washington, D.C. Bentley was a storekeeper and postmaster. Though the Bentleys were Quakers – and adverse to anything related to war – Henrietta allowed the president to have refuge at their home, according to Henrietta's granddaughter. Henrietta was also reportedly a friend of Dolley Madison. The president, his attorney

general and others, including a group of sentries, stayed for the night. After the presidential party left, the Bentley's home became known as the [Madison House](#). This home is a private residence.

205 Market Street, Brookeville, MD 20833  
(Montgomery County)

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*Key Notes* is the monthly e-newsletter of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. Send information about your bicentennial planning efforts to [Kate Marks](#) for inclusion in future issues.

PDF files of previous issues of *Key Notes* are available on the Commission's [web site](#).

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